

alcohol, since George Bush did not put it in his national agenda, since the Governor did not call for it, all of these people on this floor who say they are fighting drugs because they are concerned about the problem, they are interested in our precious children, suddenly are drawn up short because this is not a part of the approved agenda, but we have young people in this Chamber and other places who will see the inconsistency in what it is we are doing. They will see that "Liz" Karnes is like a voice out there crying in the wilderness because those others who under ordinary circumstances will say something needs to be done about alcohol will draw back and not do that which is within our power to do. We are already dealing with an issue of drugs. We are already enhancing punishments, but when it comes to the most abused one, we halt and are afraid. We become timid. The courage is gone. The spine becomes Jello, and we say just say no to an enhanced punishment when it comes to the worst drug of all. Don't do anything about that punishment, but on all of the other drugs, you can do it because the President has given us permission to do it; William Bennett has given us permission to do it; the Governor has given us permission to do it. You won't see one of these politicians going on television with their commercials saying we have done something concrete to attack the problem of alcohol being given to minors.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This does not prohibit the consumption of alcohol. Everything that is legal to be done with alcohol remains legal with my amendment. The only thing that is changed is the punishment. Senator Hall had indicated, but before I say that, hard liquor cannot be advertised on television, so there have already been some things done by the government to show its disapproval. We can go further. Senator Hall has just established that candy is the gateway drug to beer, because when he went to John's store or Al, when he went to Al's store, first thing he bought there was candy. Al kept talking to Tim, and as Tim grew older, he graduated to sausage. Then maybe he would get an extra chicken wing, then maybe an extra piece of lunch meat or a pork chop, luring him. Then when he comes of age, then it is beer. That is how they work subtly.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: They get you. I hope you will adopt this amendment.